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ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1966

ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual Report for the year 1966, in accordance with Article 15(4) and (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 and Circular 1/67 of the Ministry of Health.

During 1966, there was an increase in the number of live births in the resident population compared with the 1965 figures. The population showed a small decrease on the 1965 figure.

The incidence of acute notifiable disease was slightly higher than in the previous year.

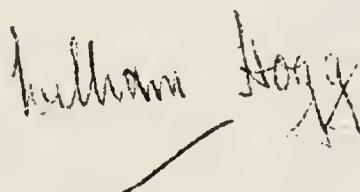
The Report contains no comment to which I wish the attention of the Council to be directed, but gives a summary of the work carried out by the Department during the year.

In the preparation of this Report, I acknowledge assistance from Mr. H.B. Reynolds, Clerk to the Council; Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Chief Public Health Inspector; Mr. E.O. Christopher, Rating Officer.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the support which the Chairman and Members of the Council have given me during the year.


I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William Hogg', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Medical Officer of Health

12th July, 1967



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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND PARISHES REPRESENTED

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Chairman - Mr. B.C. Hackett, J.P.

Vice-Chairman - Mr. L. Drayson Russill

Mrs. M.M. Gardner	- Aston Ingham
Mr. L. Drayson Russill	- Ballingham
Mr. J.H. Scudamore, J.P.	- Brampton Abbotts,
Mr. B.C. Hackett, J.P.	- Bridstow
Mr. G.L. Clay, J.P.	- Brockhampton
Brigadier A.F.L. Clive, J.P.	- Foy
Brigadier R.P. Waller	- Ganarew
Mr. E.S.W. Barrell	- Garway
Mr. J.L. Trafford	- Goodrich
Mr. W.G. Williams	- Harewood and Llandinabo
Mr. A.G. Baker	- Hentland
Mr. R.E. Jones	- Hope Mansel
Mr. R.N. Lee	- How Caple and Sallershope
Mr. R.J. Jenkins	- Kings Caple
Mr. B.H. Savidge	- Lea
Mr. C.F. Huntley	- Linton
Mr. J.B. Sainsbury	- Linton
Mr. F.C. Maxfield	- Llangarron
Mr. F.G. Scudamore	- Llangarron
Lt. Cdr. G. Glenton	- Llanrothal
Mrs. P.N. Birchley	- Llanwarne
Mr. A.G.R. Cross	- Marstow
Mr. A.P. Miller	- Pencoyd
Mr. A. Cole	- Peterstow
Mr. H.T. Allen	- Ross Rural
Mr. H.H. Williams	- Ross Rural
Mr. J.H. Davies	- St. Weonards
Mr. E.P.C. Whittall	- Sellack
Mr. G.L. Ward	- Tretire with Michalechurch
Mr. R.H. Marsh	- Upton Bishop
Mr. W.S. Young	- Upton Bishop
Mr. W. Chinn	- Walford
Mrs. A.E. Hill	- Walford
Major J.H. Vaughan	- Welsh Bicknor
Mr. E.J. Cotton	- Welsh Newton
Mr. D.A. Harper	- Weston-under-Penyard
Mr. C.J.B. Jones	- Weston-under-Penyard
Mr. W.R. Bessex	- Whitchurch
Mrs. E. Redman	- Whitchurch
Mr. R.F. Cotton	- Yatton

ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Miss A.O. Gale

Telephone:

Ross-on-Wye 2214

Chepstow House,

Ross-on-Wye.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING DESIGNATED OFFICER

Mr. C.W.J. Manley, M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P&Hy., M.A.P.H.I.
Qualified Public Health Inspector (Joint Board)
" Food Inspector (Royal Sanitary
Institute)
" Smoke Inspector (Royal Sanitary
Institute)

SAMPLING OFFICER AND CLERK TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND
SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT

Mr. O.J. Scruby

Telephone:

Ross-on-Wye 2391

Woodside,

Ross-on-Wye.

SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	=	72,362
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.66)	=	3,955
Rateable Value	=	£252,255
Sum represented by a penny rate	=	£973
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	=	11,720
Area comparability factor (births)	=	1.8
Area comparability factor (deaths)	=	0.92

Vital StatisticsLive Births

Number of Live Births	=	179
Live birth rate per 1000 estimated population (crude)	=	15.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	=	7.3%

Still Births

Number of stillbirths	=	3
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	=	16.5
Total live and still births	=	182
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	=	4

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant deaths per 1000 total live births	=	22.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	=	24.1
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	=	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	=	16.8
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	=	11.2
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	=	27.5

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of maternal deaths	=	Nil
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The Ross and Whitchurch Rural District Council lies in the south of the County of Hereford, surrounding the Urban District of Ross-on-Wye. The area is entirely rural in character, and the scenery of the Wye Valley attracts visitors.

Limestone quarries are worked at Whitchurch. All types of farming are found within the Rural District.

Population

The estimated mid-year population is 11,720, a decrease of 20 on the estimate for 1965. The average number of persons per inhabited house is 2.96 and the average number of persons per acre is 0.16.

Births

The number of live births registered as having occurred within the Rural District during the year is 179 (88 male and 91 female) and the crude live birth rate is 15.3 per 1000 of the estimated population. The area comparability factor is 1.18 and applying this to the crude birth rate, the adjusted live birth rate is 18.0 per 1000 estimated population. The live birth rate for England and Wales for the year is 17.7 per 1000 population. The ratio of male/female live births is 0.97. In 1965 there were 148 live births in the Rural District.

The number of illegitimate live births which occurred is 13 (9 male and 4 female). The illegitimate live births formed 7.3% of the total live births.

Stillbirths

Three stillbirths occurred, one more than in the previous year. The stillbirth rate is 16.5 per 1000 total births.

The stillbirth rate for England and Wales for 1966 is 15.4 per 1000 total (live and still) births.

Deaths

The number of deaths recorded as having occurred in the Rural District during the year is 130 (64 males and 66 females). In 1965 there were 117 deaths attributed to the Rural District. This total is obtained after deducting the number of deaths of non-residents which occurred within the Rural District and adding the number of deaths of residents which took place in other areas. The ratio of male/female deaths is 0.97.

The crude death rate for the District for the year is 11.1 per 1000 estimated population, and applying the area comparability factor of 0.92 the corrected death rate is 10.2 per 1000 estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales for 1966 is 11.7 per 1000 population.

List No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Persons
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	1	1	2
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	3	1	4
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, breast.	-	4	4
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus.	-	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	6	9	15
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	6	12	18
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	17	9	26
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	1	2	3
20.	Other heart disease.	12	14	26
21.	Other circulatory disease.	2	1	3
22.	Influenza.	-	1	1
23.	Pneumonia.	2	2	4
24.	Bronchitis.	1	4	5
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and diarrhoea.	1	-	1
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	9	3	12
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	1	1	2
34.	All other accidents.	2	1	3
All Causes		64	66	130

Analysis of death by cause shows the most frequent cause is heart disease (headings 18, 19 and 20), accounting for 55 deaths. The corrected death rate from all forms of heart disease is 4.3 per 1000 estimated population. In the previous year heart disease accounted for 37 deaths.

Vascular Lesions of Nervous System

Deaths from strokes amounted to 18, one more than in the previous year.

Cancer Deaths

In 1966 there were 26 deaths attributed to all types of cancer (10 male and 16 female), six more than in the previous year. The corrected death rate for cancer of all sites is 1.2 per 1000 estimated population.

The cancer (all forms) death rate for England and Wales for 1966 is 2.2 per 1000 population.

Infant Mortality

The number of babies under one year of age who died during the year was 4 (males), one more than in the previous year. The local infant mortality rate for 1966 is 22.3 per 1000 live births and this rate for England and Wales is 19.0 per 1000 live births. Two infant deaths occurred within the first week of life.

Deaths from Acute Notifiable Infectious Disease

Four deaths were attributed to pneumonia - the only acute notifiable disease which caused death. The corrected death rate for the Rural District for 1966 from acute pneumonia is 0.31 per 1000 estimated population. In the previous year 3 deaths were attributed to pneumonia.

Tuberculosis Deaths

No deaths were attributed to tuberculosis. The tuberculosis (all forms) death rate for England and Wales is 0.048 per 1000 population for 1966.

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA

Public Health Laboratory

The facilities available to the District at the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, remain unchanged.

The following table gives the list of investigations made on behalf of the Department during the year:-

Swabs	=	53
Faeces	=	5
Water (bacteriological)	=	543
Milk (methylene blue test)	=	76
Milk (phosphatase test)	=	80
Ice Cream	=	92
Other Samples	=	2

Thirty samples of sewage effluent and one sample of water were submitted to the Worcestershire County Analyst for chemical examination.

Public Mortuary

The Council has facilities for for the reception of bodies from the Rural District at the Public Mortuary, Ross-on-Wye.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals situated within the Rural District, which is served by hospitals at Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Monmouth.

Ambulances

Ambulances are provided in the adjacent towns of Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Monmouth, for the use of persons residing within the Rural District.

Disposal of the Dead - National Assistance Act 1948. Section 50

No burials were carried out under this section by the Council during the year.

Care of the Aged and Infirm - National Assistance Act, 1948 Section 47

Two investigations were made under this section during the year. No formal action by the Council was necessary.

Residential Accommodation for the Aged

Residential accommodation for active aged persons is provided at the Chestnuts, Ross-on-Wye. This Home is provided and managed by the Herefordshire County Council, and can accommodate 42 persons.

The Rural District Council has provided at Fowbridge Gardens, Walford, an estate of 17 bungalows for aged persons, with a Warden's flat, and a similar estate at Weston-under-Penyard with 27 bungalows.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Geology

The District is formed of Old Red Sandstone Rocks of the Devonian System, with an outcrop of limestone along the south-eastern boundary from Upton Bishop to Gorsley and Aston Ingham. In the parishes of Walford and Whitchurch, along the southern boundary of the District there is an outcrop of carboniferous limestone.

The Old Red Sandstone is represented chiefly by red and green sandstones and marl with outcrops of Old Red Conglomerate.

Water

All public water supplies in the Rural District, with the exception of a few public wells and springs, are provided by the Herefordshire Water Board. The Board obtains water for the supplies chiefly from the Castlebrook and Alton Court Pumping Stations (bore holes in Old Red Sandstone), and the St. Weonards and Llanwarne Scheme (springs).

During the year 482 samples of water from the Board's supply were sent for bacteriological examination. Of these 467 were found to be sterile on examination, and 13 showed insignificant counts. From other sources 64 samples were taken.

A shortage of water was experienced in the White Rocks area of Garway parish and in the Lea Bailey area in Lea Parish during part of the year.

There are 6 standpipes on the public water mains still in use.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are short lengths of public sewer within the parishes of Lea, Walford, Upton Bishop, Goodrich, Bridstow and Ross Rural. No extensions of public sewers were carried out during the year.

Four samples of effluent from the Hildersley Sewage Disposal plant were sent for chemical analysis; all of these failed to comply with the Royal Commission standards. A scheme to drain this area into the Ross U.D.C. sewers is in preparation.

Twentysix samples of sewage effluent were sent for chemical examination as part of a survey of drainage systems from Council's Housing Estates; results showed that none of the disposal plants were satisfactory as the effluents failed to attain the Royal Commission standards.

During the year the the Public Health Inspector made 26 drain tests. One hundred and twentyseven new drains were provided in connection with dwelling houses and 8 for other premises. Ten existing drains, found to be defective were reconstructed or repaired. The number of inspections made in connection with drainage was 51.

The Council does not undertake the emptying or cleansing of cesspools and septic tanks other than those on the Council's property, which are cleansed by specialist contractors.

Rivers and Streams

The quality of the effluents from a number of small sewage disposal plants discharging into the River Wye continued to receive the attention of the Council. The provision of public sewerage systems is necessary in a number of areas.

Closet Accommodation

It is estimated that about 34% of the inhabitants are still obliged to rely upon pail closets and about 58% have the use of water closets. The remaining 8% have to use privies.

During the year 40 pail closets and 49 privies were converted to water closets. Apart from conversions 50 new water closets were provided during the year.

The Council does not undertake the emptying and cleansing of privies and pail closets.

No public conveniences are provided by the Council but the need for these exists in the Symonds Yat area. This area has a large influx of day visitors during the holiday season.

Public Cleansing

The Council carried out the collection of domestic refuse from all accessible properties throughout the year. About 90% of dwellings are included in the collection, which is carried out by two motor refuse vehicles with covers and tipping gear. A fortnightly collection is provided but during the summer hotels and boarding houses have a weekly collection.

The Council does not undertake the collection of trade refuse.

Disposal of the refuse is by tipping - the tips being situated at Whitchurch, Garway, How-Caple, Weston-under-Penyard and Gorsley. During the year the Council purchased the tip at Linton.

The Council has no responsibility for street cleansing, this being a duty of the Highway Authority - the Herefordshire County Council.

There are no public baths or washhouses in the Rural District.

Swimming Baths and Pools

From April to September one privately owned swimming pool was open to the public on payment. It is provided with a purification plant and was maintained in a satisfactory condition. The pump circulates 7,000 gallons per hour and is pumping from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. alternating with 24 hour pumping. Five thousand gallons of pool water are extracted each day and replaced by fresh water.

On 23 occasions samples of pool water were submitted for bacteriological examination, and all samples were satisfactory.

Shops and Offices and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The number of shops and offices within the District is very small. The number of visits made during the year to shops was 76.

Registrations

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>No. registered at end of year</u>	<u>No. inspected during year</u>
Offices	4	1
Retail Shops	14	-
Wholesale shops } Warehouses }	-	-
Catering Establishments } open to the public } Canteens }	12	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-

Persons employed in Registered Premises

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>Number employed</u>
Offices	18
Retail Shops	28
Wholesale Shops } Warehouses }	Nil
Catering establishments open to the public	51
Canteens	Nil
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil

The number of visits made to registered premises during the year was 20.

Camping Sites - Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269(1)Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Section 3

There were 27 sites used for camping purposes in the Rural District during the year and of these 8 were licensed under Section 3 Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. It is estimated that the maximum number of campers resident in the area at any one time was 400.

The number of inspections of camping sites carried out during the year was 45, and 105 caravan inspections were made. When sites are inspected attention is given to water supply, sanitary accommodation, refuse disposal and spacing.

Eradication of Bed BugsHydrogen Cyanide Regulations (Fumigation of Buildings) Regs. 1951

No dwellings were found to be infested with bed bugs, and no disinfestations were required for this purpose. When need for disinfestation arises this is usually carried out by specialist contractors using hydrogen cyanide.

No notices under the Regulations were received in respect of disinfestations with hydrogen cyanide.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses within the District.

Diseases of Animals Acts - Anthrax Order 1938

No notifications of suspected anthrax in animals were received during the year.

Three notifications of Salmonella infection in cattle were received.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Chief Public Health Inspector for the following statement for the year 1966, furnished in accordance with Article 25(2) Public Health Officers' Regulations, 1959:-

Inspections

Agriculture (S.H.&W.Prov.) Act	=	4
Animals	=	1
Bakehouses	=	5
Camping Sites	=	45
Caravans	=	105
Control of Pests	=	2
Dairies	=	9
Drainage	=	51
Drain Tests	=	26
Factories (with mechanical power)	=	116
Food Poisoning	=	1
Food Handling Byelaws	=	16
Food Premises	=	40
Housing	=	138
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	=	9
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	=	91
Infectious Disease	=	6
Licensed Victuallers' s Premises	=	2
Nuisances	=	4
Offensive Smells	=	10
Overcrowding	=	5
Petroleum Stores	=	37
Refuse Tips	=	90
Schools	=	24
Sewage Disposal Works	=	70
Sewers	=	6
Shops	=	27
Sanitary Conveniences	=	1
Stalls	=	5
Swimming Baths and Pools	=	23
Unsound Food	=	2
Water Supply	=	653
Water Courses	=	12
Work Places	=	24
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	=	76
Food Hygiene Regulations	=	46

Notices Issued

Informal	=	25
Statutory re Housing	=	2
Statutory under other Acts	=	Nil

Summary of Defects Remedied

Accumulations removed	=	24
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	=	156
Dairies improved	=	1
Ditches cleared	=	4
Domestic Baths provided	=	68
Drains and Gullies cleared	=	14
Drains repaired	=	6
Drains reconstructed	=	2
New drains provided	=	77
Defective floors repaired	=	14
Defective roofs repaired	=	55
Defective eaves gutters repaired	=	28
Defective brickwork repaired	=	31
Defective Coppers remedied	=	2
Defective windows repaired	=	28
Defective chimneys repaired	=	4
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	=	57
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	=	12
Closets repaired or renewed	=	8
New Gullies provided	=	10
Gully covers provided	=	2
Inspection chambers repaired	=	6
Old drains sealed	=	8
Paving repaired	=	16
Privies converted to water closets	=	49
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	=	32
Staircases repaired	=	12
New sinks provided	=	25
Sanitary fittings provided	=	77
Stoves repaired	=	4
Moveable dwellings removed	=	35
Ventilation improved	=	20
Wells cleansed or repaired	=	12
Miscellaneous defects remedied	=	52

Agriculture, Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions Act, 1956
Sections 3 and 6

The number of inspections made during 1966 under Section 3 of this Act, of farms and agricultural holdings within the District was four, covering four premises. All of these premises complied with the Act.

Factories Act, 1961

The number of factories registered with the Council at the end of the year was 37; all were factories with mechanical power. Five new registrations were made during 1966 and three registrations were deleted. In addition, 65 workplaces were registered.

Ten defects under the Act were found and remedied before the end of the year.

There are now no outworkers registered with the Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1966 for the Rural District of Ross and Whitchurch in the County of Hereford.

PART I OF ACT

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority...	37	30	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers's premises)	65	86	1	Nil
Total	102	116	1	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred</u> To H.M. Inspector	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

Petroleum Regulations

No new licences were granted for the storage of petroleum spirit. One installation for storage was discontinued during the year. At the end of the year there were 82 storage installations on the Council's register.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

This Act is administered on behalf of the constituent Councils by a Joint Committee formed by four adjoining Rural Districts of Hereford, Bromyard, Ledbury and Ross and Whitchurch. The Joint Committee enters into contracts with occupiers for keeping premises free from rodents - the number of such contracts in the Rural District being 82.

The following table shows the work carried out in the Ross and Whitchurch Rural District during 1966. The number of inspections made during the year was 282.

The incidence of infestation towards the end of the year was less than for many years.

	Premises inspected	Total Infest- ations	Rats			No. of prop- erties treated	Statutory Notices
			Major	Minor	Mice		
Local Authorities' Properties	5	18	4	14	-	20	-
Dwelling Houses	76	66	-	56	10	61	-
Agricultural Properties	60	46	3	43	-	650	-
All other (including business) premises	15	12	-	10	2	10	-
Total	156	142	7	123	12	741	-

SECTION D - HOUSING

During 1966 eight Council dwellings were completed and eight were under construction at Weston-under-Penyard

Two Council houses were sold during 1966, so that the total number of Council houses sold up to the end of the year was 24. The number of dwellings owned by the Council at December, 1966 was 379 (9.6% of the occupied houses in the District).

The number of new dwellings completed during the year by private enterprise was 42, distributed in the following parishes:-

Aston Ingham	=	2	Marstow	=	1
Bridstow	=	6	Peterstow	=	1
Goodrich	=	1	Ross Rural	=	4
Hentland	=	1	Sellack	=	1
How Caple	=	1	Walford	=	1
Kings Caple	=	1	Welsh Newton	=	1
Lea	=	1	Weston-under-Penyard	=	5
Linton	=	4	Whitchurch	=	1
Llangarron	=	10			

A further 34 houses being erected by private enterprise were incomplete at the end of the year.

Housing Act, 1957. Part IV - Overcrowding

At the beginning of the year 2 dwellings were known to be overcrowded within the meaning of the Act. During 1966, one new case of overcrowding occurred, and it was possible to secure abatement of one case involving 8 persons. Two dwellings were overcrowded at the end of the year. In no instance did a recurrence of overcrowding take place after action for abatement.

Inspection of dwelling houses during the Year

1. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	=	32
2. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	=	8
3. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	=	21

Houses Demolished during the Year

Houses demolished (under Section 16 or 17(1) Housing Act, 1957)	=	3
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Unfit Houses closed during the Year
Housing Act 1957

Unfit Houses closed under Sections 16(4), 26, 17(1), 35(1) Housing Act 1957	=	5
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Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

	By Owner	By Local Authority
After informal action by Local Authority	= 165	-
After formal notice under Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act 1957	= 1	-

Proceedings under Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
(Part 2) Section 30

Grants made by the Local Authority for improvement of dwellings	=	25
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House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 (Part 2) Section 4

This section provides assistance in the provision of standard amenities in dwellings - that is a fixed bath or shower, a washbasin, a hot water supply, a water closet, and facilities for storing food. Fiftynine standard grants were made by the Council during the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. Part 2. Section 43
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. Section 3

The Council made 6 advances during 1966 to assist persons in house purchase, under these Acts.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The Rural District is a specified area and only designated milk, that is tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised milk may be sold retail within the District.

The number of milk distributors registered with the Council at the end of the year was 10. The number of dairy inspections made was 9; conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Eighty samples of pasteurised milk were sent for examination and six of these failed to comply with the Regulations.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

There are three bakeries, two premises for manufacture of meat products and one factory for the manufacture of soft drinks, registered with the Council under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

No formal action was necessary as a result of inspection of these premises.

Water Cress

This food grows under natural conditions in a number of places in the District. There are no commercial beds within the area, and the sale of water cress is small.

No illness was attributed to the consumption of infected water cress.

Shell Fish

The sale of shell fish appears to be small, and no case of illness was attributed to this food. There are no fishmongers in the Rural District and supplies are obtained from adjacent towns.

Ice Cream

There are no premises registered with the Local Authority for the manufacture of ice cream. Fifty premises were registered for the storage and sale of this food.

The number of inspections made of registered premises was 91. Conditions of storage and sale were satisfactory.

Ninetytwo samples of this food were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination during the year, and 83 of these were classified as provisional grade 1, and 9 samples were classed as provisional grade 2.

Meat

There are no slaughterhouses in use within the area. All meat is obtained by traders from abattoirs in other Districts.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. Section 3

During the year the Council issued 8 licences to slaughtermen under the above mentioned section. Four licences permitted the slaughter of swine only and one licence permitted the holder to slaughter swine and sheep.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

All premises to which these Regulations apply were inspected; the number of inspections made was 40. No formal action was necessary under these Regulations.

A kitchen in a village hall was reconstructed.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 15

Byelaws as to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in Open Air

There are no markets held within the Rural District, and sale of food from stalls is limited. The sale of food from vehicles does take place, and since the adoption of the byelaws attention has been given to vendors's vehicles. During the year 16 inspections were made under these byelaws.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 26 - Food Poisoning

No notifications of food poisoning were received during the year.

Unsound Food

The following list gives particulars of food found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered:-

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness</u>
1 Tin (6 lbs.)	Ox Tongue	Decomposition

Food found to be unfit for human consumption is rendered unsaleable and buried on the refuse tips under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of acute notifiable disease was low but higher than in the previous year; 126 notifications were received compared with 84 in 1965. The notification rate was 10.9 per 1000 estimated population, the increase being caused by the higher incidence of measles. The final quarter of the year was the period of maximum incidence.

Confirmed Cases of Acute Infectious Disease in each Quarter
1n 1966

Disease	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	1	-	-	3	4
Pneumonia	-	2	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	11	1	2	-	14
Measles	19	1	2	82	104
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	1
All Diseases	33	4	4	85	126

Measles

Measles was the most prevalent acute notifiable disease during the year. The number of notifications received was 104 compared with 76 in 1965. The majority of cases occurred in the last quarter. The measles notification rate was 8.8 per 1000 estimated population. The disease was not confined to any particular locality, cases occurring in all parts of the Rural District. The number of households involved was 65, of these 37 each experienced one case and 19 each experienced two cases. All but three of the patients were children under 10 years of age. A clear history of contact with a previous case was present in 35 instances. The number of males affected was 57.

Analysis of notified cases according to certain Age Groups

Disease	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65+	Total
Measles	4	9	16	11	12	49	2	1	-	-	-	104
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough	-	2	1	2	1	7	1	-	-	-	-	14
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
All Diseases	5	11	18	15	13	58	3	1	2	-	-	126

Whooping Cough

Whooping cough appeared in the first quarter of the year. Ten cases occurred in the parishes of Linton and Lea involving three households - all of the patients were children under 15 years of age. The total number of whooping cough notifications was 14.

Other Notifiable Disease

Only one notification of scarlet fever, two of pneumonia and four cases of dysentery were received. Of the dysentery, three of these were infections with *Shigella Flexner* 3a, an uncommon infecting agent in this District. All three patients were members of the same household and had recently accommodated a relative returned from abroad.

Other Infective Conditions

In the early part of the year, a few cases of influenza appeared. The infection was moderate but was attributed as cause of death in one instance.

There was an outbreak of sore throat in Garway Parish during the spring; thirteen children were involved and 10 were found to be infected with a Lancefield Group A streptococcus. Seven cases yielded type 3 organism and two were of type 25.

In the fourth quarter of the year there were 4 cases of infective jaundice in the Garway district.

I am glad to report that throughout the year the Rural District was free from diphtheria, enteric fevers and acute poliomyelitis. The efficiency of notification is good and I have to record my thanks to the medical practitioners for their co-operation.

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 89 cases of tuberculosis on the Register, 68 being in respect of respiratory disease. During the year 1 case of respiratory disease was added; this was a new infection.

Four cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were taken off the register during the year; two cases of respiratory disease and the non-respiratory disease were regarded as having recovered.

At the end of the year 85 cases (65 respiratory and 20 non-respiratory) remained on the register.

No death was attributed to tuberculosis during 1966 in the Rural District.

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